

Abstract of the Disclosure

A device for sensing unauthorized use of an electronic security device (108) has a host device (101) and a detector with a loop antenna (306) associated with the port (112) that receives the electronic security device (108), such as a smart card. The host device comprises a housing (121) having the port formed therein. In one embodiment, the port detector senses radiation emitted from unauthorized use of the electronic security device by attachment of hot-wire conductors to the security device, which conductors carry currents through the port and the detector. In an alternate embodiment, the dielectric constant of the electronic security device (108) is measured and compared to a predetermined value for distinguishing a nominal device from one with attached hot wiring.